REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application. Claims 1, 41-81 were pending in the application. In this response, no claims have been added, cancelled, or amended. The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's withdrawal of the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Thus, claims 1, 41-81 remain pending in this response.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 41-81 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-41 of U.S. Patent No. 6,658,151 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,835,922 (hereinafter "Shima"). In response, Applicants are filing simultaneously herewith, a terminal disclaimer in which a terminal portion of the claims of the subject application that extends beyond the term of the claims of the U.S. Patent No. 6,658,151, if the subject application were to mature into a granted patent is disclaimed. It is respectfully submitted that in view of the terminal disclaimer, the Examiner should withdraw his rejection of claims 1, 41-81 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408) 720-8300. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted, BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 2/18/06

Michael J. Mallie, Reg. No. 36,591

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026 (408) 720-8300 Fax (408) 720-8383